



Celebrate Christian homes!

Moorestown, N.J. — Jane Wilson, standing, talks with a dinner guest while her husband, Jeff, cuts and serves pizza. The Wilsons are members of Emmanuel Baptist Church of Moorestown, N.J. Living their gift of hospitality, the Wilsons exemplify the 1991 Christian Home Emphasis theme,

"Families Reaching Families." Christian Home Emphasis, sponsored by the Sunday School Board's family ministry department, will be observed from Mother's Day in May to Father's Day in June in many churches. (Photo by Jim Veneman.)

"When's God going to get here?" child asks at height of storm

By Tim Nicholas

On the evening of April 14, the congregation at Kokomo Church in Marion County was singing "Face to Face with Christ My Savior," when strong winds blew down the back doors, broke out windows, and knocked out the lights.

In the first moments of the dark a small child in the congregation asked out loud, "When's God going to get here?"

Teresa Nace, wife of pastor Glen Nace, was sitting with the child and explained that "Jesus is with us and taking care of us right now" and that it was the storm that made the lights go out.

The winds, along with small tornadoes, did damage in both Marion

and Walthall counties. At Kokomo, the church lost shingles, doors, and windowpanes. Emmanuel Church lost its steeple and a tree pulled electrical lines away from the building.

According to Jim Didlake, disaster relief on-site coordinator with the state Brotherhood Department, volunteer clean-up teams from Pike and Lawrence counties worked in Marion along with Marion County's disaster team. Walthall County's disaster team did clean-up in Walthall.

And follow-up teams from Jones and Pearl River went in to do some roofing and repair on a house. Four members of the state disaster relief team went to do repairs to homes.

Baptist Record

Thursday, May 9, 1991

Passengers remember sinking of the Zamzam

OPHIEM, Ill. (BP) — "Be calm, kiddies. Remember that no matter what happens, Jesus loves you more than mommy and daddy," Eleanor (Danielson) Anderson recounted her mother, Lillian, comforting her six children as the Egyptian steamer on which they were sailing repeatedly came under fire by a German raider.

April 17 will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the sinking of the African-bound passenger ship Zamzam. Four Southern Baptist missionaries and one child were among the passengers.

The ship carrying 201 passengers, including 144 missionaries and 33 children, bound for their mission fields in Africa, was attacked by enemy fire in the South Atlantic. Twenty Protestant denominations were represented among the passengers. Zamzam was about 1,450 miles from its destination, Capetown, Africa.

On the evening of March 20, 1941, the group of missionaries and some refugees met in New York and boarded Zamzam for their voyage to Africa. The group included Africans, Americans, Belgians, Britons, Canadians, Czechoslovaks, Egyptians, French, Greeks, Jews, Russians, Sudanese, Turks, and Yugoslavs.

Because the ship would be traveling through unfriendly territory they wandered through the South Atlantic with "black-out." Black-out, a ban issued by the captain of the ship, W.G. Smith, meant at night no lights were allowed. Not even the flicker of a match was permitted because of fear of being sighted by the enemy.

As planned, the Zamzam ported at Trinidad on March 30 and Recife, South America, April 9 for refueling and relaxation.

On the afternoon of April 14 the ship suddenly changed course and turned back toward South America. Though

Smith told passengers not to be alarmed, he had picked up a mysterious message over the radio indicating there may be a German raider in the area, a term for a destroyer during World War II in the South Atlantic.

Later, without danger, Zamzam was able to get back on course. The ship was scheduled to reach Capetown within four days.

April 16 the chief officer, Stanko Fiedel, assured passengers once more they were out of danger. There were no emergency preparations made. However, many of the passengers had carefully placed passports and other valuables in case of trouble.

Panic and confusion took hold of crew members early on the morning of April 17 in the sighting of a near German raider.

At 5:30 a.m. the first of about 10

heavy calibre shells hit the Zamzam, violently shaking it and awakening its passengers with shock and terror.

"As I reached to open the lounge door to enter, I saw a red flash coming toward me," wrote Isabella Moore, Southern Baptist missionary to Africa, recounting her experience in *The Commission* magazine, Sept. 1941. "A blasting shot forced me to fall upon the floor . . . I tried to crawl to the door (toward the stairwell)," she wrote. "Another crash and I was at the bottom of the first flight of steps. There was silence everywhere," Moore said.

Blasts from other shells echoed the sounds of women and children screaming and the moaning from the depths of the aged ship.

Smith surrendered the ship after about 10 minutes of attack.

Lifeboats were launched into the

water. One lifeboat was destroyed by a shell seconds before it was to be full of Zamzam passengers. Some passengers stumbled as they fought to get on life jackets and find a lifeboat.

The lifeboat Danielson and her children were assigned to capsized when it was launched into the water. Anderson recalled her mother calmly guiding and consoling her six children, the oldest 11 years old and the youngest 18 months, as they floated near the capsized lifeboat.

"Keep your mouth closed kiddies and remember Jesus loves you no matter what happens," her mother instructed.

Danielson and her children were going to Africa to be with her husband who was a Lutheran missionary already in Africa. Earlier in the spring of 1941, the law forbidding women and children into Africa was

rescinded, allowing the family to reunite.

All passengers were rescued and taken aboard the German raider, Tamesis, and became prisoners of war that morning.

All captured passengers were transferred to another German ship, the Dresden, where they were held for 33 days.

The Dresden circled in the South Atlantic for nine days before moving north toward the British blockade (about 4 days traveling time).

However, at the time the prison ship arrived at the blockade, British warships were focusing their attentions on the Bismarck.

May 20 the ship was escorted into the harbor of Saint Jean de Lutz, in southern France, by two mine sweepers and a destroyer. Americans were taken to Biarritz, France and all others were taken to concentration camps.

American prisoners were herded into trains and transported through Portugal before finally arriving in the United States.

Though the Zamzam ended up on the bottom of the sea, only three people died. Several were badly wounded.

"We are grateful for the experiences through which we passed . . . Since leaving we have traveled with (several) nationalities. Among every group, someone has heard from us the gospel. Germans heard!" Moore wrote.

Zamzam passengers traveled 18,000 miles and were on the sea 73 days.

Survivors and their families (descendants) are invited to a reunion July 21, 1991 at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn. For more information, contact Laurence Danielson, 3750 Emerson Ave., Boulder, CO 80303. (303) 494-5323. Course map and reunion information available upon request from Nashville bureau of Baptist Press.

Mama taught me to say 'I love you'

By Charlotte Ray

Love cannot be defined by words. It has to be shown. My mother showed me the meaning of love by her actions. Her "I love you" or "love ya" wasn't lip service. It was heartfelt and lasting!

I can never forget those nights when the temperatures would dip below freezing, and I'd be awakened about 2 a.m. by Mama putting extra cover on my bed. The warmth of that moment still warms my heart. The physical warmth of the blanket lasted through the night, but the heart warming has lasted 53 years.

Then I think of the times around the table when we'd be down to the last piece of pie. I watched as Mama would claim she wasn't hungry, and she'd let me have the last piece. The pie filled me for a few hours, but her sacrificial love filled my heart forever.

How many times have I been getting ready for church and my hose would spring a run? Mama would quietly say, "Here, take these," and she'd wear the pair with the run. The hose have long decayed, but Mama's gesture lingers on.

When I'd be sick Mama would come with that awful spoonful of medicine. My, how bitter the taste would be. But then she'd tuck me in bed and place a cool wet cloth on my head. The bitterness of the medicine has passed, but the coolness of the cloth with Mother's kind and gentle hands still calms my body and soul.

As I read in the scripture how Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it to the least of these, you have done it unto me," I can now understand how physical hunger and thirst can be relieved by the love of Jesus and the sacrifices he made for us. Mother's sacrificial love demonstrated for me the love Jesus has for me.

If I am to reach others with God's love, I must love as much as Mama loved me. Love doesn't come in fancy packages that can be bought with money or credit cards. Love is not a quick "love ya" as you rush out the door. Love is action. Thank God for Mother's love.

Ray, who lives at Mantee, is a Sunday School teacher at Mantee Church. Her mother, for whom this article was written, is Alta Moon Henderson.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

The best man for the job

The Sunday School Board Search Committee has a mammoth task in selecting a leader to replace Lloyd Elder. I'm sure they have received ample suggestions from over the convention. Presumably they will meet, weigh the advantages and disadvantages, and make their recommendation.

For this work to be fair and effective, a degree of confidentiality is a necessity. It's hardly the best policy when a name is "leaked" to the press. In April, a Nashville newspaper published a story indicating former SBC president Jerry Vines has recommended Paige Patterson, head of Criswell Bible College in Dallas. Ray Waddle, religious editor of *The Tennessean*, obtained a copy of Vines' letter to the Search Committee recommending Patterson.

Obviously someone had to give Waddle a copy of the letter, and this fact begins to pose a problem. Why

would someone try to help (or hinder) the candidacy of Paige Patterson by "leaking" this letter for early release? Were they trying to stir up a flap between fundamentalist/conservative and moderate/conservative groups? Was it a testing of the waters? Is there really an advantage to having your name mentioned first in this nomination process? Perhaps the whole thing was an accident or just an intentional mistake.

Wayne Dubose, Shreveport pastor and Search Committee Chairman, has confirmed Patterson's nomination, but refused to enlarge on it or to list any of the other nominees. Patterson has refused to comment on whether he desires to head up the Sunday School Board, or even agreed to the nomination. Vines has declared Patterson an effective administrator who understands publishing and doesn't shy away from controversy. He is also one of the self-styled ar-

chitects of the fundamental/conservative resurgence of Southern Baptists. He is acquainted with controversy and indeed may make an excellent administrator for the 1800 employees of the Sunday School Board. However, it may be best to downplay the controversy and spotlight ability and integrity in our new leader.

The Sunday School Board relates to more of our churches than any other agency. While Patterson is an adequate administrator, he is also entangled with political elements in the controversy that would cause his selection to be met with dismay.

Dubose and his Search Committee are "looking for the best man for the job. We are sensitive," he said, "to where the denomination is right now, but we also want to exercise real wisdom in our search."

His committee needs the prayer support of the convention in seeking to exercise this wisdom.

A fine crop

Uncle John Fortenberry was 95 when I first met him. He was a huge man, but still active. He plowed his garden, took care of the livestock and mended fences in his spare time. He broke every law in "The Longevity and Health" book, was a nightmare for nutritionists, and a gastronomical miracle. He drank milk with the cream stirred in it, ate pork and fat meat, and cholesterol was not yet invented.

Sundays, you would find Bro. John at the Society Hill Baptist Church in Jeff Davis County. I had the privilege of pastoring the church while in seminary. We had constructed a new church building, and it had taken sacrificial giving, but it was to be dedicated debt-free.

One week before dedication, Bro. John asked me if we would have new pews.

"Don't see how, Bro. John. The people have nothing left to give."

Then he said, "Preacher, we can't put those pews in that new church. They were built before the war (that was the War Between the States, 1861-65) and a church this old (it was organized in 1826) deserves new pews."

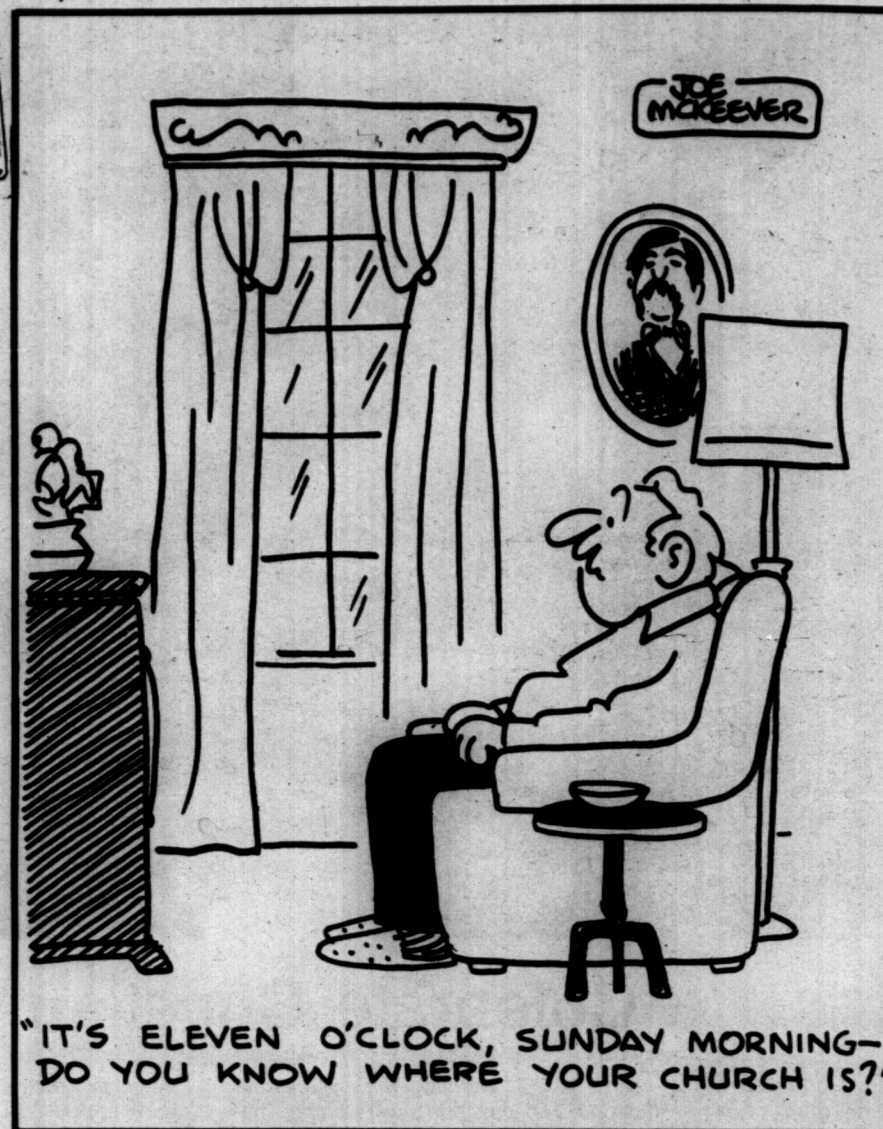
I humored the old fellow by appointing a "pew committee" and left the next day for seminary classes. I returned Friday night. The pews were bought, delivered, installed, and completely paid for. Bro. John and the fine folks of Society Hill sat on new oak pews that Sunday, and Dr. John Barnes, convention president, preached the dedication sermon.

Incidentally, when attending the Agricultural Museum on Lakeland Drive in Jackosn, pay close attention

to the old barn, shop, etc. They were moved to Jackson from John Fortenberry's farm.

Bro. John and Mrs. Fortenberry had 13 children. All were well-educated, and served in responsible positions. One daughter, Oneida, taught school all her career and faithfully corresponded with us during the 20 years we were on the mission field. I went by the hospital to see her last week. She is now 97 and weighs a bit more than 60 pounds. Still her smile and warmth shines through. She blessed hundreds of students in public schools and in Sunday School across those span of years. She was a credit to the teaching profession. In fact, I thought of the whole Fortenberry clan and knew how Bro. John would express it: "Yep. I had a mighty fine crop."

I believe you, Bro. John, and I'm sorry I doubted you about those pews.



Real retirement

A. Estus Mason has pastored churches for more than 50 years, the last 24 years at First, Crystal Springs, where he retired in 1979. Since "retiring," he has had 17 interim positions in Mississippi and on the side, served as interim pastor in Arizona, Washington, Michigan, and Norway.

In between, he has had heart surgery and served as area coordinator for the Mission Service Corps and with the Mississippi Brotherhood Department. His tireless ministry of preaching, visitation, teaching, and counseling continue.

Estus and Gertrude Mason will have been married 55 years in June. Their daughter, Sara Barnes, says, "To their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and to anyone

else who knows them, their love for each other shines as a beacon in a dark world of selfishness and hurt. Through their lives, we are able to have a better understanding of Jesus, the Bridegroom, and his love for his bride, the church."

Paulette May, former member at Crystal Springs, says, "He has given a new meaning to the word 'retirement.'" Brotherhood director Paul Harrell declares that Mason has made the difference in having a viable Mission Service Corps in our state and not having one.

This week, the *Baptist Record* salutes Estus and Gertrude Mason for 55 years of integrity, faithfulness, and Christian service. — G.H.

Land testifies in D.C. on Nat'l Endowment for Arts

By Tom Strobe

WASHINGTON (BP) — Richard D. Land, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, told a congressional subcommittee it must act to reform the National Endowment for the Arts "before the outrage escalates to the point that you will be forced to abolish it."

The Christian Life Commission would prefer the NEA be reformed rather than abolished, thereby salvaging the endowment's positive contributions, said Land, testifying April 18 before the Interior Subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations.

Reform should include congressional standards that limit what the NEA can fund and President Bush's

replacement of John Frohnmayer as chairman with a person who is "sensitive to the concerns of millions of evangelical Christians" and other concerned citizens, Land said. He told the subcommittee the CLC's most recent request for the president to remove Frohnmayer came March 4.

Southern Baptists and other evangelicals have been "extraordinarily patient" during the continuing revelation over the last two years of NEA grants for "pornographic, sacrilegious, offensive and indecent art," Land said.

"While we have been patient, there is a time for good manners to cease," Land said. "That time has come. Our patience is at an end. Unless Congress and the Bush administration reform

the NEA, we will be forced to join the chorus of outraged Americans who have said, 'Enough is enough! Abolish the NEA.'"

Land was among five witnesses who criticized the endowment's funding practices. The other four critics, including Phyllis Schlafly of Eagle Forum and Beverly LaHaye of Concerned Women for America, called for abolition of the NEA.

Among the recent examples of NEA "abuses," Land said, are:

— A \$12,000 grant made this year to Frameline to support the 1991 San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival;

— A \$25,000 grant for "Poison," a new movie that includes scenes of

homosexual intercourse and rape, made in 1990. Todd Haynes, a professing homosexual who wrote and directed the film, told *The Independent*, a London newspaper, that "Poison," includes "humiliation, abuse, unabashed homoeroticism, and a certain level of what I suppose you'd call masochism," Land said;

— A \$15,000 grant for "No Trace of the Blonde," a stage performance to be written by Holly Hughes, who describes herself as an "openly lesbian performance artist," made in 1991. Hughes told Baptist Press in an earlier interview she planned to use the grant to discuss lesbian themes. The grant also "may violate the First Amendment since it uses federal

funds to promote the religion of Santeria and voodoo," Land said. Santeria is an Afro-Cuban cult that includes animal sacrifice in its rituals.

The decency provision in the 1990 congressional reauthorization of NEA funding was a failure, Land said.

After one critic's testimony, Rep. Bill Lowrey, R-Calif., said he is "not sure that Congress has found" an appropriate way to deal with the abuses of the NEA.

The NEA needs to "exercise some judgment. That doesn't mean censorship or content restriction. It means judgment," added Rep. Norman Dicks, D. Wash.

Strobe is director, media and news information, Washington office, CLC.

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Four professors leave Southern Seminary

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Four professors at Southern Seminary have announced plans to leave Southern to assume teaching duties at other schools.

Professors vacating positions are: — R. Alan Culpepper, James Buchanan Harrison professor of New Testament interpretation, who will teach at Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

Culpepper will be a visiting professor during the 1991-92 academic year and will become a full member of the Baylor faculty the following year. He has been a member of Southern's faculty since 1974.

— Andrew D. Lester, professor of psychology of religion, who will join the faculty of Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

— Harry Lee (Hal) Poe, assistant professor of evangelism since 1988, who has been named associate professor of evangelism and associate

dean for academic affairs at Bethel Theological Seminary, a Baptist General Conference supported school in St. Paul, Minn.

— Karen Smith, assistant professor of church history since 1987, who will join the faculty of South Wales Baptist College and the University of Wales, both in Cardiff.

Lester and Smith said their decisions to resign were based primarily on the ongoing controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention and its subsequent impact on the seminary. Both expressed concern the seminary would become too rigidly conservative.

Culpepper, who is associate dean of Southern's School of Theology, said concern over the conservative direction of the seminary played a part in his decision to leave. In addition, he said his position at Baylor will allow him an opportunity to move away from administrative duties and con-

centrate more on teaching, research, and writing. An attractive salary and benefit package was another factor in his decision, he added, noting Southern professors have been granted minimal salary increases in recent years.

Culpepper was granted a two-year leave of absence by Southern.

Poe said his decision to resign was based on a strong sense of call to Bethel and the ministry opportunities available there. His loyalty to the SBC and the seminary made his decision to leave in the midst of controversy difficult, he said.

Theology Dean Larry McSwain said he regrets the seminary is losing the four professors whom he described as persons of "exceptional quality" who have made "superb contributions."

"The number of people who are leaving is not unusual—given the typical cycle" of professors coming and going, he said.

Brotherhood Commission approves new magazine

By Dave Parker

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — A new military magazine for enlisted personnel was approved at the April 26-27 meeting of the Brotherhood Commission board of trustees held in Memphis.

The board also approved a statement on political activity, dedicated a new center for global studies, and announced the beginning of a relief effort to help Kurds in southern Turkey. Selection of a new president was delayed until June 5.

Full Armor, a magazine geared to reach enlisted people serving in the military, was unveiled in the meeting. The prototype for the magazine contains 64 pages of material for and about military personnel.

The proposed budget for the magazine is \$183,000, all to be paid by projected subscriptions. There are 300,000 Baptists in the military, and the magazine will break even if 10,500 of them subscribe.

At last year's SBC meeting, Texas messenger Cactus J. Cagle introduced a motion asking all agencies, institutions, commissions, boards, and other entities in the SBC determine if any of its personnel engaged in political activity regarding the convention controversy.

"I want to go on record on this matter," Brotherhood President James H. Smith said. "One thing we have attempted to do, and succeeded in doing, is keeping our trustees and personnel out of this haggling. We have the responsibility to attempt to serve the needs of all Southern Baptists and their agencies."

Trustee Walter Barnes of Alabama said the commission should not have to spend its time and resources on such issues.

"I'm highly ticked by the procedure whereby one person can raise the question and waste the time of all the trustees," Barnes said. Trustees should not have to respond to "something that has no official ac-

tion," he said.

Trustees unanimously approved Smith's statement on political activity.

The McCall Center for Global Studies was dedicated as a learning center, a training center and experimentation center to further missions education. It contains 12 acres, a 3,350-square-foot main house and several smaller structures.

It is the former home of Judge and Mrs. John W. McCall. McCall was chairman of the Brotherhood executive committee when it moved to Memphis. His daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bethea Sr., were foreign missionaries and his son, Duke McCall, was president of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Three grandchildren are presently foreign missionaries.

Earlier, trustees approved three memorials for the property: the Godfrey Cottage, in memory of Norman and Nancy Godfrey; the Lynda Bethea Memorial Garden; and the James H. Smith Prayer Room. Bethea, missionary to Kenya and wife of Ralph Bethea Jr., was killed by robbers in April.

In other action, trustees:

— Heard a report a man has been offered the job as Brotherhood Commission president, but he will not make a decision for two to four weeks.

— Approved a \$4,159,182 budget. Of the total, \$994,685 comes from the Cooperative Program and the rest from sales of periodicals, merchandise, and registration fees.

— Heard a report that response to last year's World Changers pilot project was overwhelming, so this year there will be six projects, with 1,600 people already pre-registered.

— Approved a plan to eliminate at-large members from the board of trustees.

Parker is assistant editor, Oklahoma BAPTIST MESSENGER.

April's CP receipts exceed last year

NASHVILLE (BP) — Cooperative Program unified budget gifts received by the SBC Executive Committee for April exceeded those of a year ago but by less than a percentage point.

Gifts received for the Cooperative Program for April were \$11,756,419 compared to \$11,667,118 last year, a .77

percent increase. Seven months into the SBC budget year the CP totals are \$83,299,773 compared to the same period a year ago of \$82,539,644, a .92 percent increase.

The 1990-91 basic operating budget need for seven months is \$80,110,639. Designated gifts for the month,

however, trailed slightly the previous month and year. April's designated total was \$9,254,213 compared to April 1990, of \$9,335,072, a .87 percent decrease. Total for the month, including CP and designated gifts, was \$21,010,632 compared to \$21,002,190 for 1990.

Baptist World Aid sends initial \$15,000 to Bangladesh

Baptist World Aid has responded to the recent cyclone in Bangladesh and sent an initial donation of \$15,000 to three Baptist groups. BWAid has also launched a special BANGLADESH CYCLONE appeal to provide continuing support.

The Bangladesh Baptist Sangha, Bangladesh Baptist Fellowship, and the Garo Baptist Convention have all been actively involved in relief efforts following previous cyclones.

"We know that the Baptists of Bangladesh will already be working to provide relief," said BWAid director, Paul Montacute. "This initial response will again show to them that the worldwide Baptist community cares for the people of Bangladesh."

The last serious cyclone to hit Bangladesh was in 1988. Relief and Development work to overcome that disaster has now been overtaken by the latest tragedy. BWAid already has a funding goal of \$75,000 to support the Bangladesh Baptist Fellowship in funding a \$150,000 rehabilitation project from the 1988 Cyclone. "We regret that no funding has yet been received, and I fear that donor fatigue is setting in," said Montacute.

Baptist World Aid is a service of the Baptist World Alliance, 6733 Curran St., McLean, VA 22101-6005.

Mississippi April 1991 gifts exceed April 1990

Gifts through the Cooperative Program in April by Mississippi Baptist churches totaled \$1,998,975.35, according to an announcement by Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. This is \$549,944.56 more than that given in April of 1990.

Total giving in 1991 to the unified budget program by the nearly 2,000 churches in the state is \$7,304,896. This exceeds giving for the same period of 1990 by \$507,531.

The 1991 Cooperative Program budget for 1991 is \$20,949,962. The budget helps provide church leader training, Christian higher education, child care, and benevolence in

Mississippi and around the world.

The pro rata budget for the first third of 1991 would be \$6,983,321, placing actual income at \$321,575 more than that figure.

Causey said that Mississippi Baptists' per capita missions giving leads all other states in the Southern Baptist Convention. "I can't praise individual Mississippi Baptists and the churches enough for their growing response to the challenge of a lost world," Causey said, adding, "Sacrificial giving is surely an integral and essential ingredient in helping to bring Mississippi and the world to Jesus."

Flood waters in Delta activate disaster relief

Flood waters in the Delta and north Mississippi have activated the Disaster Relief Van of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The relief team has enough crew members to stay through Thursday. The van served 1,616 meals the first day. The Disaster Relief Van is parked in front of First Church, Marks, and is assisting in food supplies. In the crew's spare time, they are filling sand bags. This report was called in by Tim Nicholas, director, Office of Communications, MBCB.



Farrell Blankenship

Farrell Blankenship, director for ACTS in Mississippi and director of Broadcast Services Division, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, accepts the award for the Best Event Coverage Special for "That They All May Be One" at the Sixth Annual ACTS Awards in Ft. Worth, Texas. Blankenship produced the program to air on ACTS affiliates throughout the state, showing highlights of the annual Mississippi Baptist Convention.



Steve Guidry

Steve Guidry, manager for ACTS-23 of Jackson, accepts the award for the Best Commercial for "Dallas Printing" at the Sixth Annual ACTS Awards, April 25 in Ft. Worth, Texas.



Southern Baptist Chaplains Commission
50 YEARS
of caring
1941-1991

Southern Baptists Salute Their Chaplains Serving In Operation Desert Storm

Mississippi chaplains listed in the above illustration are John Cook, Coffeeville; Tim Williams, Columbus; and Jimmy Smith, Plantersville. Sixty-one from the state have been endorsed by the SBC Chaplains Commission as eligible to serve as chaplains, according to Dick Brogan, consultant, Cooperative Missions department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Durham • Darrell E. Thomsen • David George • Dan Payne • Dan
 Williams • George Hemingway • Bart Physioc • Eddie
 Harringer • Allen Kovach • John Cook • Richard Green • Alan
 Sharp • Steven Thornton • Charles Walker • Thomas Preston • Larry
 Metcalf • John Atkins • William Underwood • Doug Brown • Jerry
 Graham • Keith Brown • Mark Zerger • O. Mike Green • Jim Jones • Robert Powers • Joel
 Lytle • James Tille • Terry Whiteside • Jim Gunn • Tim Bedsole • Thomas Day • Tommy Marlowe • Ben
 Stallings • Dan Harrison • Joel Harris • Thomas Shepard • Lance Sneath • Gordon Oglesby • James
 King • Steve Colwell • Joe Conn • Stanley Harkow • Jim Duke • Randy Holmes • Jeff Bruns • P. Dudley
 Neal • James Spivey • Ben Salinero • Walter Johnston • Jimmy Smith • Art Taylor • Danny Agee • Kenneth
 Cook • Charles Simpson • Henry Peterson • Leonard Lee • Lemuel F. Wade • Jay Breland • Gil
 Strickland • David Koch • Delmer Allen • James Mallard • Frank Powers • Ron Ewell • Van Jones • James
 Thomas • Mark Jankoski • Larry Jones • James Edmonds
 Lonnie Byrd • Larry White • W. Clayton Hoffman • Jerry
 Wilcox • William Carmichael • Richard
 Caron • Danny Holcomb • Bobby
 Cook • John D. Baker • David Laird • William Morgan • Terry Peele • Larry
 McCarty • Carlton Fisher • Ebb Kilpatrick • Jason Duckworth
 Daryl Desjardin • Gary Johnston
 Tony Conner • Paul Mason
 Raymond Ennis • Coyce McEmore • Johnnie Dickson • Lamar Denkins • Henry Sennett Jr. • David L.
 Tucker • Ronald Mallow • Henry Walker • Otto Mazzoni • Ernest Etheridge • William Poole • Willie
 Ailstock • Robert Taylor • James Street • Grover Glenn • Conrad Dodd • Gabriel Collett • James
 Brown • John Meadors • Scott H. Jensen • Robert Kibbe • Les Roberts • Jimmy Williams • William
 Pomeroy • Thomas Everett • Tom Eldred • Ted Fanning • Tim Williams • Walter Combs • Pressley
 Stuts • Garland Walker • Mike Langston • Ralph Gibson • Bill Steele • Bobby Bunce • Lawrence
 Keith • Tierian Cash • Roosevelt Brown • J.D. Weadick • Debra McGuire • Jerry Compton • Doyle
 Dunn • Frank Reuter • Tom Hiers Jr. • Gary Whitson • Charles Kessler • Bill Bennett • J. Steve Evans • Bill
 McManus • Jerry Shirley • Thomas Watson • Franklin Johnson • Kim Evans • Bernie Calaway • Edward
 Newhouse • James Pipkin • Fred Clark • Ron Howard • Charles Baldwin • Mike Lovett • Jackson
 Landham • Cherri Wheeler • William Toguchi • Joe McGugan • Steward Smith • Tom Blase • Les
 Arnold • Dwight Mitchell • Karen Brandon • Brent Causey • Wilbert Harrison • Martha Hayes • Jack
 Isbell • Carol Mitchell • Dan Robinson • Tom Kilgore • Richard Sones • Ken Stice • Don
 McConaughay • Don Thrasher • Dennis Whittaker • Wayne Smith • James White • Tom McElhane • Dan
 Davis • David Park • Michael Coggins • Bill Fox • William Sokolis • Don Hagler • Glenn Nowell • Bob
 Phillips • Mike Robinson • William Bragdon • James Rose • Rachel Coggins • William Shelton • R. Gene Mills

Bus/RV parking available in Atlanta

ATLANTA (BP) — Because of parking limitations at the Georgia World Congress Center, site of the 1991 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Atlanta in June, officials are urging recreational vehicle owners to use facilities outside the downtown area and ride MARTA.

Campers are advised to use Stone Mountain Park, east of Atlanta, and ride the MARTA bus access/rapid rail to get to the Center. Also available are campsites near Six Flags, McDonough (south), Austell (west), and Kennesaw/Marietta (north).

North Georgia Campers on Mission has made arrangements with a number of Baptist churches in the Atlanta metro area for any group attending the SBC to park RVs in church parking lots. Most churches are offering electrical hook-ups but some offer just parking for fully self-contained units.

For more information on church sites, call George Huger at (404) 978-1328 or write him at 2382 Jones Court, Snellville, GA 30278. Churches have requested no arrivals before mid-afternoon on the Sunday before the convention.

During the convention sessions there will be a secure lot available at the Atlanta Fulton County Stadium reserved for local SBC volunteers, buses, and RVs. However, bus and RV passengers should be dropped off at the WCC and the driver only proceed to the special lot. A shuttle will be provided to the WCC for those drivers and volunteers.

There is no overnight RV parking in the area near the WCC although there are some public parking lots for day use. Parking near the WCC is limited and relatively expensive. The Stone Mountain Park is on a "first come, first served" basis, said officials, and is \$12.50 per night. There is a \$5 fee each time you leave and re-enter the park.

Other campsites available in the metro area are: Arrowhead Campsites, near Six Flags, (404) 948-7302, \$21.53 per night, \$3 each additional person; KOA South, McDonough, (404) 957-2610, \$19 per night, \$2 each additional person; KOA West, Austell, (404) 427-2406, \$20.50 per night, \$2 each additional person; KOA North, Kennesaw/Marietta, (404) 427-2406, \$19 per night, \$2 each additional person.

Southeastern faculty affirms articles of faith

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Southeastern Seminary faculty has voted to affirm the school's articles of faith, prompting seminary President Lewis A. Drummond to classify it as a "first positive move . . ."

In a related matter, a joint meeting of incoming and outgoing officers of Southeastern's student council deadlocked on a motion to support the faculty statement.

Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty L. Russ Bush said other important steps still need to be taken.

"I want to affirm the faculty for its initiative. Confidence is a fragile commodity . . . I hope we will be able to point to this faculty action as the early rays of a new day at Southeastern," said Bush, a Mississippian.

The faculty's statement was a response to the concerns Drummond expressed to the seminary's trustees in March about the theological integrity of the seminary.

The student motion was proposed by David Mansberger, outgoing council president, but the vote was 12-12 which killed the motion.

The faculty statement contained seven points: an affirmation of "our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ . . .," scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God; "our loyalty to the churches of which we are members . . .," "our historic relationship to the Southern Baptist Convention;" the statement of purpose of Southeastern Seminary; the Articles of Faith of the seminary; and the "criteria of accreditation of the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools."

Volunteers involved with Baptist work in 1988 topped 10,000 for the first time. Of these 1,175 were located overseas for secular employment/business/study.

Southern honors John McCall of Mississippi

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Five graduates of Southern Seminary, representing missions, the pastorate, and teaching, have been selected 1991 Distinguished Alumni by the Louisville, Ky., school.

Southern Baptist honorees are Paul R. Adkins, vice president of the ministry section for the Home Mission Board in Atlanta; Louis O. Ball, chairman of the department of music at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn.; Sydney L. Goldfinch, retired Southern Baptist missionary and retired pastor of First Church, Walnut Cove, N.C.; and John G. McCall, head of the religion and philosophy department at Mississippi College in Clinton and pastor emeritus of First Church, Vicksburg, Miss.

The four will be honored at the seminary's annual Alumni and Friends reunion in Atlanta June 5 during the Southern Baptist Convention.

The seminary has also selected an American Baptist graduate, L. Edward Dorsey, senior minister of First Church, Anderson, Ind., as a 1991 Distinguished Alumnus.

Resolutions needed now

NASHVILLE (BP) — People seeking to have resolutions considered by Southern Baptist Convention messengers at the annual meeting in Atlanta in June are requested to send them in advance to the Resolutions Committee.

Committee chairman David Hankins, pastor of Trinity Church in Lake Charles, La., has asked proposed resolutions be sent to the committee 30 days in advance of the June 4-6 meeting. According to SBC bylaw 21, the committee has the "duty . . . to prepare and submit to the convention resolutions which the committee deems appropriate for adoption and to report on all matters submitted to

it by the convention, with or without recommendation or amendments."

"In order for committee members to look carefully at possible resolutions, it would be very helpful to have them in advance," said Hankins. Each of the 10 members of the committee will get a copy of each proposed resolution submitted in advance, said Hankins.

All proposed resolutions should be sent to the SBC Executive Committee, 901 Commerce St., Suite 750, Nashville, Tenn., 37203, Attention: Committee on Resolutions.

Dean Register, pastor of First Church, Gulfport, Miss., is a member of the Resolutions Committee.

Chapman names Credentials, Tellers committees

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (BP) — SBC President Morris Chapman announced appointments to the final two key committees to serve during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 4-6, in the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

The SBC bylaws require the president to appoint the Credentials Committee, in consultation with the vice presidents and the Tellers Committee in consultation with the SBC registration secretary.

The vice presidents are Douglas Knapp, a retired missionary to Tanzania, from Gainesville, Fla., and Fred Lowery, minister from First Church, Bossier City, La. The registration secretary is Lee Porter, consultant with the Sunday School division of the Sunday School Board in Nashville.

The announcement of the Credentials Committee appointments must be made at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. The Resolutions and Committee on Committees were announced earlier.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Credentials Committee, in cooperation with the registration secretary, "shall review and rule upon any questions which may arise in registration concerning the credentials of messengers."

Furthermore, any committee ruling, "may be appealed to the Convention during business session. Any contention arising on the floor concern-

ing seating of messengers shall be referred to the committee for consideration and the committee shall report back to the Convention," as stated in bylaw 8.

Chapman named Clark Hutchinson, minister from Eastside Church, Marietta, Ga., chairman.

Other appointees are Frank Ashby, minister from Gracemont Church, Tulsa, Okla.; Finis Beauchamp, minister from First Church, Cameron, Texas; Charles E. Brown, minister from Government St. Church, Mobile, Ala.; James M. Castelberry, minister from Ridgecrest Church, Montgomery, Ala.; Pat Cronin, minister from First Church, Deerfield Beach, Fla.

Barrett Duke, minister from Highland Ranch Church, Littleton, Colo.; Roger Freeman, minister from First Church, New Orleans; Frankie Harvey, layperson from Emmanuel Church, San Jose, Calif.; Danny R. Hill, minister from First Church, Fair Oaks, Calif.; Tommy Knotts, minister from First Church, Belvedere, S.C.; John David Laida, retired minister from First Church, Clarksville, Tenn.

Rick Lineberger, minister from First Church, Grapevine, Texas; Jerry Mathis, layperson from First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas; Paul T. Murphy, minister from Twelfth St. Church, Gadsden, Ala.; Chris Osborne, minister from Central Church, Bryan, Texas; A. Dale Patterson, minister from East Brent Church, Pensacola, Fla.; Russ Preston, minister from Sharon Church, Olathe,

Kan.;

Rick Ray, minister from First Church, Moore, Okla.; Charles Redman, minister from First Church, Pasadena, Texas; Sandy Sandlin, minister from First Church, Beaumont, Texas; Doug Surber, minister from Miami Shores Church, Dayton, Ohio; Dennis Swanberg, minister from First Church, W. Monroe, La.; Maxine Tatum, layperson from Colonial Church, Baltimore, and Rick White, minister from First Church, Franklin, Tenn.

TELLERS COMMITTEE

The Tellers Committee tabulates any votes taken during the annual meeting, under the supervision of the registration secretary.

Chapman named Michael T. Hailey, minister from First Church, Lakeland, Fla., chairman.

Other members are James L. Adkins, retired minister from First Church, Gracewood, Ga.; Richard Caperton, minister from Wieuca Road Church, Atlanta; Charles E. Cloyd, layperson from Hickory Church, Mayfield, Ky.; Stanley Cole, minister from Kento-Boo Church, Florence, Ky.; Alan Cox, minister from Woodland Hills Church, Asheville, N.C.

Alan Day, minister from First Church, Edmond, Okla.; Mike Dean, minister from Calvary Church, Beaumont, Texas; Pete DeMoss, minister from Germantown Church, Germantown, Tenn.; Jack Eassa, layperson from First Church, West Palm

Beach, Fla.; Ernest Easley, minister from Central Church, Jacksonville, Texas; Charles A. Herbst Jr., layperson, First Church, Durham, N.C.; Donald Vance Lasley, minister from First Church, Damascus, Va.; F. Murray Mathis, minister from Third Church, Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Waites P. McLeod, minister from Immanuel Church, North Augusta, S.C.; David K. Newberry, minister from First Church, Crossett, Ark.; Omar Pachecano, minister from Eastside Church, El Paso, Texas; Doug Pilot, minister from Wyoming Church, West Pittston, Pa.

Bill Prince, layperson from Abilene Church, Martinez, Ga.; Lindy Reed, minister from Birchman Church, Independence, Mo.; Jim Reimer, minister from Second Church, Springfield, Mo.; Phillip Simmons, minister from N. Richland Hills Church, Fort Worth, Texas; Bobby G. Swanner, layperson from First Church, W. Monroe, La.; Mark Tolbert, minister from S. Highland Church, Little Rock, Ark.; Gary Tolliver, minister from Oak Tree Community Church, Hemet, Calif.; Ted Traylor, minister from Olive Church, Pensacola, Fla.; and Mary Jo Troughton, layperson from Westside Church, Lenexa, Kan.

Chapman also named Harvey Collier, layperson from First Church, Albuquerque, N.M., to serve on the Committee on Committees, replacing Jean Martin of Albuquerque. Because of illness in her family, Martin will not be able to serve on the committee.

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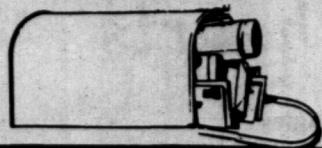
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Letters to the editor

Beam, retired minister, dies

AT&T aids homosexuals

Editor:
It has been confirmed that officials at American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) are going to allow homosexual employees to use AT&T facilities across the nation to display and hand out materials concerning homosexual rights, invite fellow employees to meetings, and hold such meetings in AT&T facilities.

We would suggest to you that it would be appropriate to let AT&T corporate officials know of the public's disapproval of such a policy which essentially treats homosexuals as other minorities. True minorities include various ethnic groups, those who are handicapped, and women.

If you would like to register your opinion with AT&T, please write to the following address:

AT&T
Executive Appeals Dept. 3N26
5 Woodhollow Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Thank you for taking the time to involve yourself in a concern that is further indication of the deterioration of family values in our country.

Christian Action Commission
Jackson

My friend "Mrs. Mission"

Editor:
Mrs. Lucy Clinton, faithful servant of our Lord, member of the Calvary Baptist Church, Lamar Association,

was called home on April 17, 1991. I first met Mrs. Clinton in December of 1975. She was introduced as Mrs. Clinton, our WMU director.

As these 16 years passed I had the privilege to be her pastor and associational missionary. Through these privileged relationships I knew her to be a person who was very serious about missions and was very instrumental in leading others to be personally involved in, and in giving to the missions causes of our convention.

Because of my first encounter with Mrs. Clinton and her involvement in missions I began to refer to her and to introduce her as "Mrs. Missions." Mrs. Clinton was a heartbeat in God's Great Commission. She was a great Christian, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, educator, example, and encourager, but she will be remembered by me as my friend and "Mrs. Missions."

Doug Benedict
Director of Missions
Lamar Association

On forced termination

Editor:

Your article in the April 11 issue regarding Mrs. Myra Marshall and her experience with "forced termination" was a timely one indeed. It seems that there is an over increasing trend these days for pastors who move onto a new church field to simply clear out the current staff and bring in their "own people." This is often

done regardless of how long the other staff members have been in their positions, or how good a job they are doing. This is a practice very similar to that used by newly elected politicians when they take office.

For many years, I've seen letters, articles, and books about the tragedy of "forced termination" for pastors, but very little about other staff persons who experience the same thing. As Mrs. Marshall indicated, the trauma, pain, and humiliation is just as great for those other staff members (including those of us who were not part of the "called staff"). There is also the same apprehension about finances and how the bills will be paid. It comes as a surprise to many church members that those employed by churches and religious agencies do not qualify for unemployment. Therefore, when they face termination, there is nothing to "tide one over."

On numerous occasions, I've heard someone caution against terminating a pastor because "He is God's man," and one had better not tamper with him. Do you suppose anyone ever considered the possibility that God also places others besides pastors in their places of service? Do we not need to also exercise that caution in removing them of "tampering" with that life? Who are we to say that those other individuals are not "God's men or women" for that particular place of service at that time?

I would agree with Mrs. Marshall that things are never the same after such an experience; something has indeed been taken from you. As she pointed out, however, the thing that

keeps us going through such an experience is knowing that God does indeed love us as individuals. His love for us is not dependent on staff position, social status, or political clout within the denomination.

Thank you for such a relevant article and the information on a book that is sure to be most helpful to many of us who have been through such an experience.

Jerrye Buckels
Gautier

One way to enlarge SBC

Editor:

It was not surprising to read in your recent "Letters to the Editor" section of *The Baptist Record* that Jerry Falwell was seeking financial support from individual Southern Baptists. Also, with his continued association with current Southern Baptist leaders, it would not be surprising that he might have a mailing list of individual Southern Baptists for the purpose of seeking financial support.

I have been of the opinion for some time that when Falwell feels that the Southern Baptist Convention will help finance Liberty University he will receive a "great message from God" that he and his supporters should become Southern Baptists. I certainly would like to enlarge our Convention, but hope that receiving financial support would not be the motivating factor.

Travis Watson Jr.
Eupora

William Beam, 72, a retired minister, died of Parkinson's disease April 24 at the State Veterans Nursing Home.

Services were held April 26 at Trinity Church in Pearl with burial in Floral Hills Memorial Gardens.

Beam, a Plantersville native, attended Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary. He was a minister in numerous churches, including Bethel Church in Smith County, Bethlehem Church in Yazoo County, Trinity Church in Fulton, Calvary Church in Belmont, Grandview Church in Pearl, Lawrence Church in Lawrence County and others in California, Alabama, and Louisiana. He moved from Santa Ana, Calif., to Pearl in 1963.

He was a World War II veteran and the widower of Mary Bassett Beam. Survivors include daughter, Barbara Sensing of Pearl; daughter, Dorothy Hegwood of Dallas; son, Howard Beam, pastor of New Covenant Church in Long Beach; two sisters; and nine grandchildren.

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LETTERS FROM CAREY - FINANCIAL RESOURCES FROM GOD

Jim Edwards, President

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

Matthew 25:21

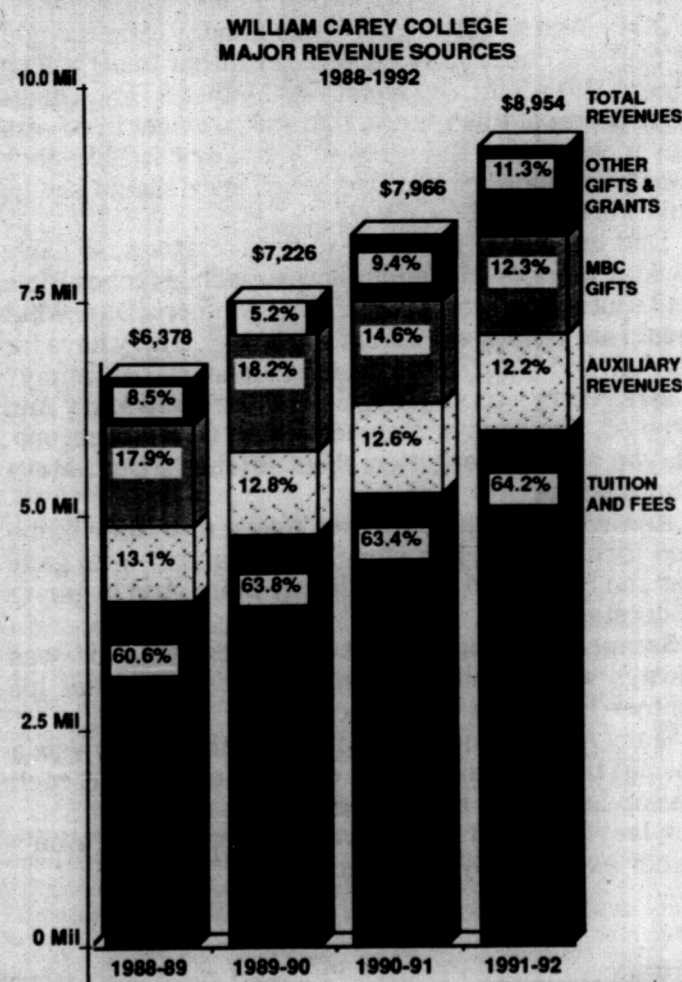
"DUCKS OR SWANS?"

Deanna Harrison, a writer and homemaker from Texas, is acquainted with how God gives us both few and many things. Harrison writes about the ups and downs of life in her book *My Ducks Are Really Swans*. "God transforms the 'ugly ducklings' of life into the beautiful swans." I believe God seldom gives us many swans until we are faithful with a few ducklings! Financial resources at our college are no exception. The accompanying chart shows Tuition and Fees have increased proportionately in recent years, while MBC Gifts, Other Grants and Gifts, and Auxiliary Income have decreased as a percentage of total revenues. This letter focuses on how we are working with what God has given us in recent years to turn some revenue negatives into positives.

"STUDENTS OR GIFTS?"

Because of low occupancy levels, dorm and apartment rates have not increased at Carey for several years, and the total cost of education including tuition and fees is lower than at any Southern Baptist college with 1,000 or more students. This is positive for our students, but negative for overall cash flow. However, because Christian education is such a "good buy" at Carey, aggressive marketing and financial aid plans have significantly increased revenues from Tuition and Fees during the past two years. The chart shows nearly 64% of the revenues for 1989-92 from this source. Since 1988-89, total revenues have increased \$1.6 million (25%) and Tuition and Fees have increased nearly \$1.2 million (31%). Auxiliary revenues have declined percentagewise in recent

years. However, our Coast enrollment gains of 40-50% this year have improved the rental revenues on the Gulfport apartments which are all occupied for the first time. We have finally turned that negative to a positive as part of our vision for growth and service for Christian education on the Coast.



We are grateful for our increased student body and their financial impact on Carey. They work hard, as do their parents and spouses, and we consider their support as part of God's resources for our mission. We are especially pleased that more of them are involved in our Work Service Program and are working their way rather than borrowing their way through college. However, there is a negative aspect of these gains in that the percentage of student tuition is much higher than a financially balanced college should strive for as a goal. A range of 50-60% in tuition and fees is preferable. This heavy dependence on student revenues was summarized recently as someone said, "The good news is that students are coming... and the bad news is that students are coming...but thank goodness students are coming!"

Gifts from the MBC have decreased in proportion to total revenues in the past three years. Annual MBC Operating Allocations have declined by nearly \$100,000 since 1987-88. The College received special MBC gifts of \$350,000 in 1989 and 1990 to help launch our "Visions of Excellence Program" with a Statewide goal of \$3,000,000. This program, which is part of the Other Gifts and Grants total, has made good progress on the Coast, from Trustees, faculty and staff, businesses, and banks. However, to reach our "Visions" goal by 1995 we need more support elsewhere in Mississippi. Finally, our alumni giving base has been narrow, but gifts and pledges for 1990-91 have more than doubled over 1989-90, and new giving units are up significantly. We hope this new level of alumni enthusiasm, coupled with stronger support from the MBC and others who believe in Christian education, will help Carey be better balanced financially in the future, and thus more of our ducklings will become swans.

P.S. Next Week - How We Spend God's Resources

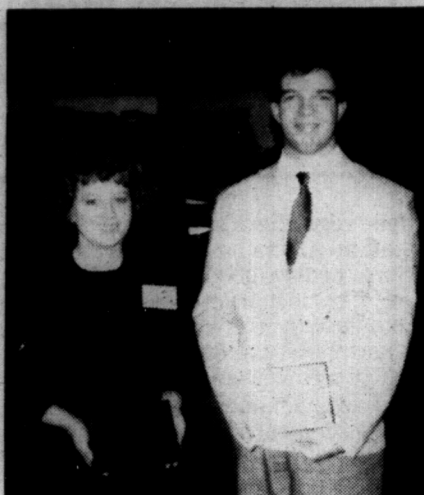
capsules

TWO CLUBS REPLACE BROADMAN READERS PLAN: NASHVILLE — The 27-year-old Broadman Readers Plan is being replaced by two new book clubs. Replacing the Broadman Readers Plan are The New American Commentary Plan and the Christian Living Book Club. Broadman Readers Plan members will receive a letter about the new clubs accompanied by an enrollment form. Others interested in joining the clubs may obtain more information by writing the Direct Sales Department, Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Ave. N., MSN 138, Nashville, TN 37234.

CHINA COMMUNISTS LOSE MEMBERS TO RELIGION — BEIJING — So many Communist Party members in China are attending religious services that in some places "it's hard to get party members together and hold meetings or activities," reported the official *Peasants' Daily* in March. China's vice president, Wang Zhen, also reportedly expressed alarm about the rapid growth of religious faith in the countryside. In one county in Hebei province, 813 people became Roman Catholics last year while only 270 joined the Communist Party, Wang said. In another county, party officials had to ask a priest to convince farmers to sell their grain to the government.

DEWEY MERCER, MISSIONARY TO JAPAN, DIES AT AGE 61 — MATSUE, Japan (BP) — Dewey E. Mercer, a Southern Baptist missionary who spent the last decade of his life rebuilding a congregation in an out-of-the-way area on the western coast of Japan, died April 17 of a heart attack. Mercer, from Central City, Ky., came with his wife, Ramona, to the town of Matsue about 10 years ago to try to resurrect a church whose members had all left. Using his typical evangelistic zeal, whatever personal money he could free up, and volunteers to refurbish a building, the couple established a fellowship of about 30 believers. Besides his wife, Mercer is survived by two grown children.

MISSISSIPPI CLAIMS THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF BAPTISTS in its population at 55 percent. Other states with the largest Baptist populations are Alabama (51.4 percent), Arkansas (42.2 percent), District of Columbia (46.8 percent), Georgia (50.8 percent), Kentucky (42.5 percent), North Carolina (47.1 percent), South Carolina (46.5 percent) and Tennessee (43 percent). Although Mormons account for only 1.4 percent of all Americans, they comprise 69.2 percent of Utah's population and 31 percent of Idaho's residents.



State Youth Four Part Keyboard Award Recipients

Gina Gordon of Hebron Church, Taylorsville, received the Judges' Award in piano during the State Youth Four Part Music Festival. Tommy Creel, of Carson and representing Prentiss Church, Prentiss, received the Judges' Award in organ.

Hungry hearts

By Gary Bagley

We live in an affluent society that is very much the product of restlessness and materialistic visions. The affluence that we live in far surpasses that of our forefathers. A problem we have encountered in our quest for "more" is that our priorities have become confused. Anthony Campolo in a lecture given to ministers at Furman University said that we are trying to satisfy abstract needs with concrete "things." He referred to the claims of advertisements that "things" can satisfy our needs for happiness, self-esteem, confidence, peace, and the like.

There was an article some time ago about a primitive tribe of people who were discovered out in the bush of Australia by a team of anthropologists. As they began to study these people, the anthropologists were intrigued at the short life span of these people and how emaciated they appeared, even though they ate heartily of the fruits that were native to that place and some of the grains that they had learned to raise. However, when this particular food supply was analyzed, it was discovered that it simply did not contain the nourishment that was needed by the human body. So here was a paradox of people eating heartily of a certain kind of food and still starving to death.

This is a parable to me of our society attempting to meet all of our deepest human needs by acquiring an increasing number of material possessions. We human beings are more than just physical creatures. We are also emotional and spiritual creatures. St. Augustine understood the problem when he aptly prayed: "Thou hast made us for Thyself, O God, and our hearts are restless until they rest in thee."

Bagley is pastor of First Church, Meridian.



Bagley

Muslims, Christians battle in Nigeria

LAGOS, Nigeria (BP) — Renewed violence between Muslims and Christians in northern Nigeria has killed at least 80 people, according to witnesses.

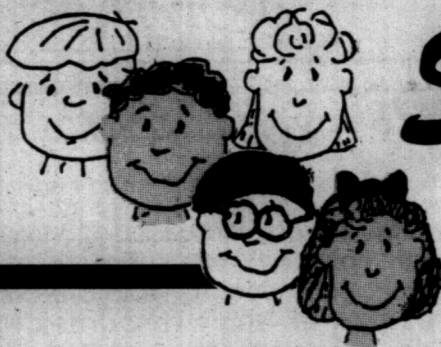
The worst confrontation occurred April 23 in the city of Bauchi, reported the Associated Press. A dozen churches were set afire, the report said.

Southern Baptist missionaries in Nigeria said a Baptist church and parsonage were burned in Bauchi.

Bauchi is near Jos, where Baptists have significant work, and Gombe, where Southern Baptist missionaries Wiley and Geneva Faw live. The Faws, both of Waynesburg, Ky., were reported to be safe at home April 24.

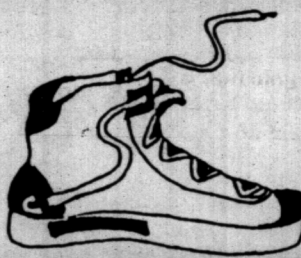
Witnesses said thousands of Christians now are trying to flee the Muslim-dominated north to southern Nigeria, where more Christians live.

The latest fighting reportedly started the previous week in a town near Bauchi over whether Christians and Muslims should use the same slaughterhouse.



Shoe Strings

"the kids' fun page"



Created by

Rob Sauls
Darrell Vandergriff
Lib McCluskey

Name the ShoeString Kids

We want to thank all those that responded to naming the ShoeString Kids. To give kids in other states that get Shoe Strings a chance to respond, we will wait until the first anniversary issue in July. So if you have a suggestion for names and ages send to:

Darrell Vandergriff
720 Watson Branch
Franklin, Tenn. 37064

Describe your mother using these letters:

M uch love for me

O

T

H

E

R

More Adventures

Mary Ann really dreaded this Sunday. She thought of every excuse she could give her father to not attend church this week. You see, it was Mother's Day. Things were different this year, in that she no longer lived with her mother. She had no use for a lacy card like they made in Sunday School last year. Why should she go this week?

Dad just would not listen to those excuses, so early Sunday morning Mary Ann slowly reached for her Bible and shuffled toward the car. It was Mother's Day. What would her friends say? What would Mrs. Terry have for an activity? Would Jesus understand about her family?

Mrs. Terry was standing at the door when Mary Ann arrived. She always seemed so glad to see everyone. Maybe she had forgotten about Mother's Day, Mary Ann thought.

As each child came in, they joined in a Bible game and then listened to a story about Hannah, who gave her son Samuel to God. Suddenly Mary Ann began to understand.

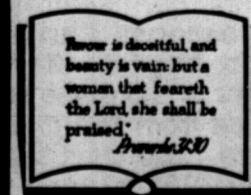
Samuel grew up without a mother, yet God was always with Samuel. He must have known that his mother loved him very much.

Mary Ann now understood that Mother's Day was a special time to think of not only her mother but each person in her life that cared for her.

A lacy card and an "I love you" made Mary Ann's father extra happy this special day.

Match Mother with Child

Luke 2:7	Mary	Joseph
Ex. 6:20	Jochebed	Esau
II Tim. 1:1-5	Eunice	John the Baptist
Gen. 21:3	Sarah	Moses
Gen. 4:25	Eve	Jesus
Ruth 4:17	Ruth	Issac
II Sam. 12:24	Bathsheba	Seth
Gen. 30:24	Rachel	Obed
Luke 1:63	Elizabeth	Timothy
Gen. 25:25	Rebecca	Solomon



MOTHER'S DAY



Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



Mama goes on vacation

Midway across Georgia, we stopped at a deserted roadside park. Drizzle changed to raindrops as we made sandwiches on the table by a magnolia tree. Mama and I like picnics. W.D. doesn't, particularly. "You want to get mugged, stopping here?" he asked, and pulled the plug on our fun. We gulped down our food, while we cast nervous glances at dim woods all around.

Oglethorpe (James), English general, established the colony of Georgia in Savannah in 1733. Another general, Sherman, ended there in 1864 his march to the sea. It was I who wanted to see the city's historic district. W.D. had wanted to stay home in his favorite chair. Mama would have preferred, I think, that we spend the week at her house. But I knew that if we did, she — like Mamas will do — would want to cook three meals a day for us, and I didn't think she felt well enough to do that. So, just like she always had saved me the pulleybone of the chicken, she let me choose where to take her on what I had promised would be "her" vacation.

Tybee is 12 miles from downtown Savannah, and northernmost of Georgia's islands.

Highway 80 ends on Tybee, just before running into the Atlantic. Our motel, the Veranda, was a block from the highway's end, and beside the beach. Early morning walks at low tide on that beach were totally exhilarating. Wild wind; cold sand; clean, salty air; only a few people out — a man with a black dog; a woman and a little girl picking up crabs and dropping them into a bucket; a cou-

ple, holding hands, splashing along at the water's edge. Again and again the refrain from Psalm 107 echoed in my head: "Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and his wonderful works to the children of men!"

Example: That's what Mama has been. For more than eight decades she has set an example of faithfulness for others, by being in her place at church Sunday after Sunday. Of course, I've only known her since she was 21. How much I owe her for bringing me up in an atmosphere of love for God and his Word! On vacation, she had her mind on WMU. She was responsible for planning her church's state missions Week of Prayer program (in Alabama that's in May). I helped her design the letters to display the theme.

I had walked far down the beach. When I turned back, I saw W.D. coming to meet me. "I have found a place of quiet," I told him, "— island beach in April, in mid-week."

Restaurants: Mama hates them all. She really liked this motel because it had a kitchenette where she could make toast for breakfast to eat with the homemade pear preserves she'd had the foresight to bring. W.D. wanted to try some of the area restaurants. Me? I'm easy to please. Just so it's food. On cobblestone River Street, even hamburgers cost \$5.

"Save The Pirates' House for a special occasion. Its gourmet seafood is special, but its prices are a bit high. It's located in the oldest house in Georgia, built in 1733," said the guide on a bus tour. Mama and I smiled knowingly. We'd been there the night

before, and made a memory: \$18.95 was its minimum price; and "gourmet" there evidently meant "raw."

Seagulls: what fun to sit on the motel's little porch and feed the flocks of them. One would hover, on wing, and catch the crumbs I tossed up. Another would huffily try to chase the others away, feathers bloused up. I called him Scuffy. Two rusty blackbirds perched on the porch railing and then hopped down to pick up crumbs by our feet. In early mornings, great black, long-billed cormorants flew over.

Mama decided she wanted to go wading in the sea, but she had picked the stormiest day, and a time when the tide was in. When she and I reached the water's edge, waves were whitecapping far out to sea, smashing onto a pile of rocks, and foaming onto the beach. Neither of us could even dare to get close enough to wet a big toe!

Daily city tours of several kinds were offered — bus, trolley car, carriage . . . I wanted to do the walking tour, beginning with breakfast at a bed and breakfast inn and walking past courtyard gardens, and fountains, squares, beneath moss-draped live oaks, into the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist or the Presbyterian church where Woodrow Wilson was married, or into one of the old iron-trimmed houses that Eugenia Price wrote about . . . But it was time to leave, and again the rains had begun.

Actually, this vacation was an early celebration of Mother's Day, as I doubt if I can return to Alabama again so soon as this week.

You are a jewel, Mama, worth far "more than rubies," and I love you. Happy Mother's Day!



Bryant

class had the only pencil sharpener," he remembers. "I saw Eunice the first time when she came to sharpen her pencil."

Not too many years later, they sat in a BYPU group together. Others may have thought he was writing notes about the program, but he was writing notes to Eunice: "Will you marry me?" he asked. "When?" came back. "Soon. Write 'yes' or 'no.'" "Yes!" He dropped out of school at ninth grade, and they got married when she was 15 and he was 16.

Though he joined the church as a child, Hollis said his conversion did not take place until 1948, two years after he returned from Leipzig, Germany, where he fought in the infantry during World War II. Then, he had bought a farm, but when he felt the

(See BRYANT on page 8)

Thursday, May 9, 1991

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

Marylyn Crisler retires after 30 years' service

By Anne W. McWilliams



Crisler

"The Lord told me to call May Grillot, who worked at the Baptist Building switchboard," Marylyn Crisler remembers. As a result of that call, she went to work, "part-time" in the Bookkeeping Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Next day, she answered "Yes" to the question, "Can you work full-time?" and began that Jan. 19, 1961. Thirty and one-third years later, on April 30, 1991, she retired as Baptist Building hostess and mailroom supervisor. Only the first four or five years had she worked in Bookkeeping with Nell Cotton and Daphne Pridgen, whom Peggy Spencer had dubbed "Teacher" and "Boss Lady."

Her favorite task was conducting tours of the Building for visitors. One woman, 98, asked her for extra copies of brochures saying, "I want to take them to the old ones who could not come with us."

"Senior adults always seemed to be having so much fun," Marylyn said, "that I would wish I were one of them!" Sometimes groups would send her one of their cookbooks to add to her extensive collection. (Her favorite is Southern Sideboards.)

Employees of the MBCB gave a reception in her honor on April 22, and gave her candleholders and a silk flower arrangement.

She and her husband, Robert Crisler, live in Terry, (P. O. Box 314, phone 878-2628) near where they both grew up. (In fact, her grandmother made his christening dress.) Born at Knoxville, only child of Isaac and Leola Smith, she moved to Terry at age 7.

On their first date, when she was 15 and Robert was nearing 20, they went on a BTU hayride. Her mother, on being asked permission, expressed dismay: "You want to go with him? He's old enough to be your grandpa!" That wasn't too old for Marylyn. After she finished high school at Raymond, she married him (also an only child) on Feb. 11, 1945, at Bethesda Church, where she had been baptized at 12.

"I love people, and I love to have fun!" she said last week. When she was a teen, her friends in BTU would talk about where they would hold the next social. Nearly always they would wind up saying, "We can go to Marylyn's house."

"They knew my parents would receive them with a warm welcome," she said. Her dad would fix up a place for them to meet, build and arrange benches, decorate with plants, and make ready a proper setting for the peanut boils, ice cream freezings, and candy pullings.

Her talents at partying were placed into fullest use when Marylyn followed the Lord's leadership to the Baptist Building. It would be foolish to try to estimate how many receptions, birthday dinners, brunches, and celebrations she has helped to plan and carry through as Building hostess!

With Philippians 4:13 as insurance, she competently took care of tours and receptions and a long and varied list of other duties. In the mailroom, she worked closely with Peggy (Mrs. James.) Broome of Pearl, who a short time ago also reached her 30th anniversary of work with the MBCB. Robert, who retired about five years ago as accountant with Blue Cross-Blue Shield, has often worked with them as a volunteer in the mailroom.

"Now I'll have more time to be with him," she said. "And with my children and grandchildren."

Their son, Rob, and his family live in Birmingham, where he is an electrical engineer with Alabama Power Company and has just received a promotion, to become manager of client services. His and Anita's children are Laura and a new baby, Rebecca Lyn, named for her grandmother.

The Crislers' daughter Becky Robison, and her husband, Johnny, live in Laurel, where she teaches at St. John Episcopal School. Their children are Clay, Robert, and Kelley.

"The place where the children and grandchildren all like to go most," Marylyn said, "is to my mother's old home place — it's been in the Hand family for several generations — seven miles west of Terry. We have blueberries, pecans, plums, and muscadines." Fishing, traveling, yard and garden work — these are on her list of "things to do."

"We both want to do volunteer work — at Crestwood Center in Jackson and visit the Homebound." Because Robert's mother, Martha Crisler, is in a nursing home, they will include nursing homes in their visiting. Another reason for this interest is that, growing up, Marylyn wanted to be a nurse. Her mother had planned to be one, but the rigorous training of those days made her drop out and become a teacher instead.

Marylyn is a member of the WMU and of a Bible study group at First Church, Terry.

Kind, patient, gracious, warm-hearted, fair, friendly, unselfish, cooperative, helpful, Marylyn has been a constant source of inspiration to her fellow workers. "It has been my hope that others would be able to see the Lord in my life," she said. If that has been her wish, then her wish has come true.

Although not appointed as missionaries, chaplains are endorsed for service by the SBC Chaplains Commission, which is housed at the Home Mission Board.

To admit I have been in the wrong is but saying that I am wiser today than I was yesterday.

Hollis Bryant retires

By Anne W. McWilliams

Hollis V. Bryant retired April 30 as consultant, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, a position he had held 13 years, since Jan. 1, 1978. A retirement brunch was held in his honor on April 26 in the Baptist Building.

He has been a consultant in work with bivocational, in-service guidance, interfaith witness, rural church work, world missions conferences, and Campers on Mission. For 10 years he also was consultant for seminary extension.

In retirement, he plans to work as part-time consultant for world missions conferences (now in the realm of the Brotherhood Department) and interfaith witness, which has been transferred to the Evangelism Department. So far, 15 associations have scheduled world missions conferences for 1992; this fall Bryant will train associational steering committees for those. He said that in these two areas, world missions conferences and interfaith witness, he feels he has achieved his most satisfying accomplishments, especially in "teaching people how to witness to those in cults, and helping parents get their kids out of Satanism." In 1988, the Home Mission Board honored him with a national award, naming him Interfaith Witness Coordinator of the Year and his wife, Eunice, as Interfaith Witness Associate of the Year. Special awards have gone to him also for his work with bivocational and with world missions conferences.

This summer, June 3-Aug. 10, Hollis and Eunice will accompany a caravan of Campers on Missions to Alaska, doing various types of volunteer mission work there, and along the way. Their interest in Alaska stems from having been home missionaries there, 1973-76, under appointment of the Home Mission Board and the Alaska Baptist Convention, in Chugach Association. Before then, he had been pastor of First Church, Juneau, and chaplain for the state legislature of Alaska.

Their daughter is expecting more visits from the Bryants now, he said. Charlotte Yvonne is married to Ron Madison, pastor of First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ala. A Spanish teacher, she's getting her master's degree from University of Alabama.

Grandchildren are Shannon, who is in college at Samford; Matthew David, in 11th grade; and Megan, 8.

They plan to keep their two houses, one near Bruce in their native Calhoun County, (phone 983-2255) where he can keep up his gardening for relaxation, and one at 1004 Northside Drive (phone 924-1311), Clinton. "I'll be available for supply," he added.

"Eunice has been a source of strength," he said. "She was converted before I was. I would never have come to where I am without her." When she was in third grade and he in fourth, he transferred to Pittsboro school from Oldtown school. "There were curtains between classes, and our

Rhodes issues a call to prayer and spiritual awakening

Ken Rhodes, missions director for Pearl River Association, has issued a call to prayer and solemn assembly for its 36 churches and all concerned Christians.

"Let the Church Rise" is the theme for a coming together of those who believe that the only answer is repentance and a turning back to God.

Bob Anderson, pastor of Parkview Church, Baton Rouge, La.; Gary Berry, pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg; and Ed Lyrene, pastor from Fairhope, Ala., are among those

leading the solemn assembly.

Union Church, Picayune, (Caesar community) is host church, G. A. McCoy, pastor.

"Let the Church Rise" will begin May 17, and conclude on May 18 with three sessions.

For additional information, call the Pearl River Baptist Association, (601) 798-2372, P. O. Box 259, Carriere, MS., or write John Tatum, coordinator, The Intercessors International, Inc., 1112 Parkwood Circle, Picayune, MS. 39466, (601) 798-9584.

Jesse Ford Parker, former pastor, died

Jesse Ford Parker, 82, of Pascagoula, died April 6 in New Orleans Hospital.

He was former pastor of Wade Church for 10 years. Other pastorates include: First Church, Vancleave; Long Creek Church, Meridian; Barton Church, Lucedale; Beulah and Siloam Churches, Magee; and several other small churches in the state.

Funeral services were conducted by Ralph Young of Moss Point, and William Hurley and Glynn Davis, both of Wade. Parker's son Wayne conducted a music program, and burial followed in the Wade family cemetery. Parker is also survived by his wife.

Midwestern Seminary's annual luncheon set

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Alumni Association of Midwestern Seminary will meet for its annual luncheon in Atlanta, Ga., during the 1991 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, June 4-6. The luncheon will be held June 5 at 12:45 p.m. in The American Hotel — Best Western, 160 Spring Street.

Maurice Graham, a 1975 master of divinity graduate of Midwestern will speak. He and his wife, Laurie, are missionaries to Kuwait.

Luncheon tickets may be reserved by writing to the Office of Seminary Relations, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 5001 N. Oak St. Trafficway, Kansas City, MO 64118; or by calling (816) 453-4600.

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Just for the Record



A GA/Parent Banquet was held recently at Lexie Church, Waltham Association. Pictured, left to right, front row, are Kayla Brock, mission adventure one badge; Jade Brock, mission adventure one badge; Kamie Dillon, mission adventure one badge and foreign mission study certificate; Kim Conerly, guardian angel pin; Amanda Hill, guardian angel pin and foreign mission study certificate; Karena Conerly, mission adventure two badge; Cassie Hilburn, guardian angel pin; Brook McGinnis, guardian angel pin and foreign mission certificate; back row, Melissa Boyd, mission adventure six badge; Melissa Brock, mission adventure five badge; Patti Hill, mission adventure badges three and four; Dena Dillon, mission adventure badges four and five and foreign mission study certificate.

Girls in Action were given badges upon completion of grade level workbooks. Foreign mission study certificates were given to girls who attended the book study "Crossing Barriers With Love." GA-director is Lorey Alford.

Southern will host reunion in Atlanta

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Southern Seminary's annual Alumni and Friends Reunion Banquet will be held at 1 p.m. June 5 in Atlanta at the Georgia World Congress Center's Thomas B. Murphy-Ballroom.

Reunion banquet tickets can be obtained by contacting the seminary's office of alumni relations at (800) 626-5525. In Kentucky, call (502) 897-4700. Tickets are \$10 each if purchased before May 5. After May 5, tickets are \$14 each.

BRYANT

From page 7
call to preach he returned to his studies and was graduated from high school, Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary.

His pastorates included East Louisville Church at Louisville; Roundaway Church, Dodsdsville, and several part-time churches. As director of missions, he served five Mississippi associations — Winston, Riverside, Scott, Jones, and Calhoun.

Growing up in a family of eight, he has not forgotten some advice given him by his parents, James and Evie Ann Bryant. His mother, who died last year at 97½, would always say to him, "Be good." And his dad often told him, "Never mistreat anyone." When a little black boy moved nearby, Hollis' father instructed his boys: "You had better not mistreat that boy!"

"We had no intention of mistreating him," Hollis said, looking back. "I guess Dad thought we might not let him ride our wagon that was pulled by a goat. This advice many times proved useful to me, especially in Alaska, where I ministered to persons of many races and nationalities."

Harold Bennett, pastor, dies

Harold Jack Bennett, 75, of Grenada, died Feb. 19, 1991, at the Grenada Lake Medical Center.

Bennett was the preacher at Dividing Ridge Church in Coffeeville. He graduated from Ripley High School, attended Northeast Mississippi Junior College, and graduated from Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary.

He was a World War II Air Force veteran. He pastored Calvary Church, Corinth; Bethany Church, Merigold; Trinity Church, Rosedale; Hardy Church, Grenada; First Church, Eudora; and Crossroad Church in Mantee.

The funeral was held at Hardy Church with Jim Jefferies, Courtney Selvy, and Gary Black officiating. Burial was in Wayside Cemetery, Scobey.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred Duncan Bennett, of Grenada; three sons, Donas Wayne Bennett of Aiken, S.C., Jackie Randall Bennett of Bastrop, La., and David Duncan Bennett of Southaven; two brothers; three sisters; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Hardy Baptist Church or the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis.

Homecomings

Ramah Church, McCall Creek (Franklin): May 12; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner in fellowship hall, noon; 1 p.m. singing; no night services; Wiley Reid, Brookhaven, guest speaker; Deacon's Quartet, Monticello, guest singers; afternoon offering for cemetery fund; Fred Morris Sr., pastor.

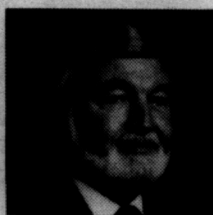
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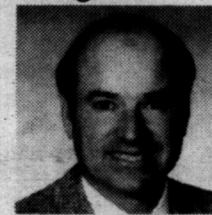
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Churches adopt Expanded Annuity Plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan since those reported in the March issue of the Baptist Record: George: Bexley; Humphreys: Beulah; Itawamba: Morning View; Jones: Shelton; Lowndes: Community; and Yazoo: Central.

Names in the news



Woodville Heights Church, Jackson celebrated Pastor Appreciation Day on Sunday, April 28. Duck Muse, chairman of deacons, presented Hueston Adkins, pastor, a plaque for five years of service and a love offering check. A reception was held following the evening service to honor Adkins and his wife, Arnie.

Paul E. Robertson was named associate professor of theology at New Orleans Seminary during a recent annual meeting of the seminary's board of trustees.

Robertson, a native of Jackson and VanNuys, Calif., is also editor of The Theological Educator, the seminary's journal of theory and ministry. From 1986 to 1990 Robertson served as director of the seminary's doctor of ministry degree and continuing education programs.

A graduate of New Orleans Seminary with both master of divinity and doctor of theology degrees, Robertson received his bachelor of arts degree from Mississippi College.

Brenda Haggard Lee, daughter of Hugh Haggard and the late Lelia Haggard, has recently been named employee of the month from among 108 fellow employees at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Texas. Brenda, along with her husband, P.D., serve as career missionaries with the Foreign Mission Board in the

Spanish publication ministry. She is presently working as assistant to her husband, who is director of the Information Processing Department. The Lees, natives of Starkville, are former missionaries to Spain. In addition to her responsibilities at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, she has served for two years as minister of music of Loma Terrace Church. The Lees have two children, Terry, an instructor at Mississippi State University, and Christy, who is working on a degree at the Cleveland Institute of Music in Cleveland, Ohio.

Hardy Denham of Hattiesburg continues to serve as minister in residence at William Carey College. It is not his "previous" place of service as written in last week's Baptist Record "staff changes" column. The item announced correctly that he is interim pastor at Wildwood Church, Laurel.

Winston plans reception for retiring DOM

Because of health problems, Jerry W. Stevens, director of missions for Winston Association, has announced his retirement.

The 28 churches of the association, in appreciation for faithful service, will hold a reception in honor of Stevens and his wife, Bonnie, on May 19, from 2 until 4 p.m. in the Winston Baptist Association building, Louisville. The public is invited.

Stevens has been director of missions in Winston Association since 1980. Before then, he had served pastorates at Calvary, Columbus; First Church, Nicholson; and Midway Church, Pontotoc.

Born in Itawamba County, he was graduated from Blue Mountain College and attended New Orleans Seminary. Saltillo Church ordained him to the ministry in 1970.

He and Bonnie are the parents of two daughters, Sheri Dawn and Traci Lynn.



Bonnie and Jerry Stevens

Staff changes

Garland Eaves of Fellowship Church, Mathiston, has resigned due to ill health. His new address is Rt. 2, Box 237, Eupora, MS 39744. Phone number is 258-7842.

First Church, Sardis announces the arrival of its new pastor, Jerry Sanford. Sanford and his family moved to Sardis April 16 from Meridian, where he had served as pastor of Mt. Horeb Church for nine years. A native of New Albany, he received his education at Blue Mountain College and Southwestern Seminary.

Sanford

Cowart Church, Charleston, called John T. Tolbert as pastor, effective Feb. 1. A native of Ripley, Tenn., his previous place of service was Pleasant Grove Church, Covington, Tenn. He received his education from Union University, Jackson, Tenn. and Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., where he also served as a counselor at the Baptist Hospital. He is trained in pastoral counseling, marriage, and family therapy.

Robert D. Lee, Biloxi deacon, dies

Robert Doras Lee, 74, 640 Wetzel Drive, Biloxi, Miss., died April 21, 1991, in Biloxi. Native of Starkville, he had lived in Biloxi 40 years.

He had retired as civil service maintenance supervisor at Keesler Air Force Base after 20 years' service. He was a charter member of Emmanuel, Bay Vista, and Brodie Road Baptist Churches. He served as deacon at Bay Vista.

Survivors include his wife, Eula Lynam Lee, Biloxi; two sons, Roger Wayne Lee of Saucier and David Lynam Lee of Brandon; a daughter, Mrs. Connie Lee Cooper of Slidell, La.; two brothers; three sisters; and six grandchildren. Services were from Riemann Memorial Funeral Home, Biloxi. Burial was in Floral Hills Memorial Park, Gulfport.

Revival dates

Wildwood Church, Tupelo: May 13-17; 7 p.m. nightly; Danny Sparks, Thrasher Church, Booneville, evangelist; Mitch Robbins, Wildwood Church, music; Don Sparks, pastor.

Rocky Point Church, Carthage: May 10-12; 7 p.m. nightly and 11 a.m. Sunday; Garland McKee, director, Evangelism Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist; Welton Madden, music; Robert Parish, pastor.

First Church, Lake: May 12-16; Sunday, 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Mon-Thurs., 7:30 p.m.; Chuck Moody, First Church, Morton, evangelist; John Yates, full-time music evangelist, music; Ken McLemore, pastor.

Mt. Nebo Church, Collinsville (Newton): May 12-16; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 nightly; Danny Lanier, evangelist; Paul Chaney, music evangelist; Michael Truhett, pastor.

Heidelberg Church, Heidelberg (Jasper): May 12-14; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., and dinner served; Mon-Tues., 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Kevin Hand, Tickfaw, La., evangelist; Nick Davis, music; J. W. Tynes, pastor, will complete his 34th year at the Heidelberg Church in June of this year.

Thursday, May 9, 1991

Revival results

First Church, Collinsville (Lauderdale): April 7-12; James Fancher, Jackson, evangelist; Jewell Greer, Meridian, music; David L. Sellers, pastor; two professions of faith.

Wynndale Church, Hinds-Madison Association, April 21-24; James Fancher, evangelist; five for baptism and three by letter; Charles Gentry, pastor.

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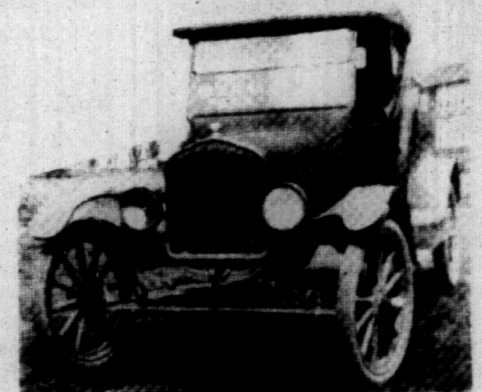
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"Building a new humanity," redeemed in Christ

By Benny Still
Ephesians 2:11-22

It was Dwight L. Moody who said, "The world has yet to see what God can do in a life that is totally committed to him." To say our lives are



Still

God — utilization of these gifts is the key! We who have new life in Christ constitute a new type of humanity who have been united in peaceful and harmonious fellowship. The purpose of this week's lesson is to help us evaluate how free we are of attitudes that lead to divisiveness and antagonism among Christians.

In verses 11-12 Paul reminds us that any prejudice that builds walls between persons and separates them into divisive groups is built on

LIFE AND WORK

the false rationale that God prefers some groups to others. Peter's words recorded in Acts 10:34-35 speak to this idea: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right" (NIV). The KJV says it this way: "God is no respecter of persons..." If God's words spoken through his divinely inspired writers are true, then there is no place for religious or racial discrimination in the Christian community. Such is simply not acceptable to God. Also in verse 12 we see that the wrong application of religious truths can hinder the divine purpose for all people and cause spiritual depravation of the highest order. Here he reminds the Jewish portion of the Ephesian congregation what happened to them as a people when they wandered in the wilderness disobedient to God's command. Could our "Christian" America be on the brink of a similar period of wandering? There seem to be more spiritually depraved people in our land these days than not.

God's work of salvation not only changes in-

dividuals but it also affects human relationships. As persons draw near to God they can also draw near to one another (v. 13). My parents used to tell me that no matter who a person was or what he had done, there was always something good to be found in that person because it was for him/her, too, that Christ died. That idea has always stimulated me to seek out the good in a person. Sometimes it's extremely hard to find that good — but God knows where it is, and we should never give up trying! He never gave up on us, did he? That says a lot for God's grace, and the example that we ought to emulate in our Christian living. I wonder if in heaven there will be those pouting in their mansions and refusing to gather to praise God because they heard that someone from beneath their social class made it to heaven that they weren't expecting. In heaven there will be no "big I's" and "little you's." Seems to this writer we'd better be getting used to it down here so there won't be such culture shock up there!!!

In Christ's death and through redemption of people, God has broken down all walls that divide and separate. He has built a new humanity where all divisive distinctions and all antagonistic feelings are abolished, thus

establishing peace (vv. 14-15). Only God can do that! He is some kind of awesome, isn't he?

There are some denominations who boast that unless one is a member of their particular group, he can't go to heaven. Can you imagine the looks on their faces after a few thousand years of praising God in their own little building when they look outside and see that they're not by themselves? This new humanity — folks redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, born-again folks, the new people of God — live in a world without walls. As the church, they have as their goal the reconciliation of the whole world to God (vv. 16-18). The new humanity shares the privileges and blessings of redemption as illustrated by (1) the unity of a new spiritual nation, (2) the intimate relationships of a family, and (3) the coming together of a great temple with Christ as the cornerstone (vv. 19-22). This new and redeemed humanity, the church built upon and in Christ through the Spirit, is to be the dwelling place of God in the world (vv. 21-22).

If the ground at the foot of the cross is not level in your church or mind, perhaps we should call in the bulldozers!

Still is pastor, Poplar Springs Church, Mendenhall.

Bathsheba and David; sin's bitter consequences

By Jerry Vardaman

2 Sam. 10:1-12:31; 1 Chron. 19:1-20:3

It is not correct to say that all suffering is due to sin. It can be correctly said that all sin will surely cause suffering. In this lesson we note



Vardaman

the adultery of Bathsheba and David. Apparently, the relationship was brought on by the aggressiveness of David, but Bathsheba can not be cleared of all blame and must have been a willing participant in the affair. As it was in David's time, the same is normally true today. Both parties involved in such affairs usually can be blamed, though doubtless one partner can be identified as the more aggressive in such matters.

One of the most notable patterns of sin can be traced in the case of David, but this pattern runs true in every life under the control of sin. It is this: one sin practiced leads to other, more serious sins. David is described as an idle man — gazing around on his roof top while his soldiers are engaged in battle against the Ammonites. He was smitten with lust when he noticed in a near-by location a beautiful woman bathing. Her name (he discovered) was Bathsheba, and her husband was away — fighting David's wars! This was a perfect op-

portunity for David to indulge in sexual pleasures — and he was not slow in following through and carrying out the act of adultery.

David now practiced deceit. When he discovered that his adultery with Bathsheba resulted in her being pregnant by him, he decided to make it appear that her husband was the father of the coming child. He brought Uriah home from Rabbath Ammon (this city is Amman today, the capital of Jordan). David attempted everything, but his efforts to deceive did not work. Soldiers were to abstain from sexual relationships with their wives if battles were being fought by their comrades (cf. 1 Sam. 21:5). To the utter confusion of David Uriah is faithful to his military obligations and does not venture into his house to visit Bathsheba.

In the King James Version of 1 Sam. 21:5, there is a transmission error. The passage (briefly alluded to above) should read in full "... all of the young men are holy, even when it is a common expedition, how much more today will all be holy?" This reading is based on the discovery of the oldest copy of a biblical book at Qumran — the Samuel Scroll of Cave IV — which contains the correct readings (the words "vessels" and "all" in Hebrew are easi-

ly confused). This reading shows that all soldiers refrained from sexual relationship with their wives in times of conflict. Uriah was behaving as discipline required.

David now resorts to murder. One is reminded of the same pattern in Shakespeare's MacBeth. Lady MacBeth stirred up the fires of ambition in her husband. If MacBeth would kill Duncan the king, THEN MacBeth could be king. One sin led to another sin ending in David killing Uriah, making it look as though an accident overtook the hapless soldier. He had arranged with his commander, Joab, to place Uriah the Hittite in the path of danger, and sure to his purpose, the full fury of harm fell on Uriah and he was killed. No one must know — so thought David. But Joab knew, and Bathsheba knew. Soon those around the house of David knew. Soon all of Jerusalem knew. Soon Nathan the prophet knew. Soon the entire country knew. Today the entire world knows about his sinful affair. Instead of learning from the mistake of David and Bathsheba we see people following the same lifestyle as though God in heaven will not judge and does not care. "Be sure your sins will find you out" (Num. 32:23) is the word of the Lord concerning secret sins, and David was not to be an exception.

Nathan was very tactful in his accusation of David. It is easier for us to see sins in others than in ourselves. Nathan resorted to a parable of a rich man who had great flocks. Yet the rich

man stole the pet sheep of a poor man and ate it. "What should happen to such a scoundrel?" Nathan asked. David fell into his trap and condemned himself: "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die..." (2 Sam. 12:5). All at once David began to see the enormity of his sin, and, when he confessed it, at the same time he repudiated it. This is why God could forgive and finally restore David to a position of usefulness. But even forgiven sin can have consequences. Jesus forgave the thief on the cross, but still that thief died for his past acts of crime. David's house would suffer unending grief and sorrow due to his sin. One lesson should be learned from this sad chapter in David's life. Sin never brings blessings into any life. Rather, sin always results in bitter consequences.

The account we read of David is, unfortunately, not an isolated event. May God in his mercy, teach America again today that no one hardens himself against God and prospers (Job 9:4). Of course this was not a continuous, repeated affair in the life of David. Even this one deviation and turning from God-honoring behavior, however, had disastrous consequences for the rest of his life and haunted his household after his death. May we as God's children today vow that David's pattern of life here will not be ours.

Vardaman is professor of archaeology, Mississippi State University.

Affectionately and effectively fulfilling our ministry

By Ruth N. Allen

2 Corinthians 4:1-2, 7-18

In 1951 General Douglas MacArthur, after being relieved of command by President Truman, returned home to an American hero's welcome.



Allen

His farewell speech before a joint meeting of Congress was a very memorable event. He received a standing ovation as he concluded with a line from an old barracks ballad, which said, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away." However, just prior to those words, MacArthur said something far more significant. He stated that he had done his duty for his country, as God had given him understanding. In essence, he was saying essentially the same as Paul states in our study passage. MacArthur had fulfilled his God-given ministry of service to his country. He believed he had effectively as well as affectionately served his country.

A "minister" is one who "executes the commands of another or is a servant." The ministry of Jesus which he passed on to his followers is "to cause people to obtain and be governed by the Holy Spirit" (Thayer). Since all Christians

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are ministers, their ministry, differing only in time, place, and people, is identical to Jesus' ministry. All believers are to affectionately and effectively fulfill their ministry of "causing people to be governed by the Holy Spirit."

All who minister for Jesus will want to be able to say with Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7). Paul assures his readers of God's sustaining power and admonishes them not to lose heart.

In Westminster Abbey, on a marble tablet which bears the portraits of John and Charles Wesley, is this inscription — "God buries the workers, but carries on the work." When Moses died, the Israelites despaired of their future; but the Lord "raised up Joshua" to carry on the work. When Joshua died, others were ready to take over. When great national leaders and great religious leaders die, often a feeling of apprehension arises; however, the Lord "raises up a Joshua," and the work goes on — sometimes better than before. Therefore, each believer has a ministry to fulfill with God's promise to empower. God's expectation is for his people to be faithful in ministry.

Several factors emerge to assure believers of God's power to fulfill successfully their ministries. Possession of the knowledge of God's presence empowers believers to endure hardships and frustrations.

1. Paul says in 4:7, "We have this treasure in earthen vessels." However, Plummer paraphrases the truth as, "The knowledge is limitless, but it is stored in unlikely receptacles." Verse 6 states, "For God, who said, 'let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." Therefore, God has entrusted believers with the knowledge of his glory, a glory to be reflected to all people.

Believers cannot afford to hide the light of the glory of God, as reflected in the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, which occurred in the late '40s and early '50s. Treasured copies of the scripture were stored in hidden clay jars, and for centuries the world was denied access to these. Thus, Christians must never allow hardships and trials to dim the glorious light of God.

2. Fulfilling one's ministry is proportionate to one's faith and belief in the saving power of Christ. Paul quotes from the psalmist, "I believed, therefore, I have spoken" (Psalm 116:10). Faith and trust in Jesus and his power, as shown

in his resurrection, is the determining factor in fulfillment of one's ministry. All believers are promised to be raised with Jesus and stand in the presence of God. Faith in God's promise is the impetus for speaking forth for him and the power which emboldens and sustains through despair, hardships, and trials.

God also rewards a faithful ministry with a harvest of more thankful people. "Therefore, we do not lose heart" (4:16).

To hear Jesus' sayings does not involve getting out of the easy chair of lazy self-satisfactions; to do them requires strengthening our moral muscles for action. In Jesus' judgment, there can be no substitute for "doing." The world's masters of literature win its coveted verdict with, "Well said!" To the philosopher the commendation is, "Well thought!" However, fine speech and fine thought are not in themselves sufficient to win the approval of Jesus. Believers, fulfilling the ministry given by Jesus, must express themselves in fine living. The approving verdict of Jesus is reserved for those to whom he can say, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" Which represents more accurately your attitude toward fulfilling your ministry? Is it your speech, thoughts, or your acts?

Allen lives in Jackson.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



The Baptist Children's Village

Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

ACCREDITED



P. O. Box 27,
Clinton, MS 39060-0027
(601) 922-2242

Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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March 31, 1991

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Mrs. Doris Grantham
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Mr. David Jones
Ms. Pauline Kilgore
Mrs. Elizabeth Hawkins Jones
Mrs. Nona Fortenberry

March 1, 1991 -
March 31, 1991
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Date rape is common occurrence for young women

By Chip Alford

NASHVILLE (BP) — Seventeen-year-old Laura was flattered that an "older man" at work asked her for a date.

"He even asked me out again," she said. "And nothing happened on those two dates to make me think anything was wrong. He was a perfect gentleman."

Still, Laura (not her real name) did not tell her parents about her friend because he was nine years older. At 26, he would be considered too old for a high school girl. She lied to her parents to get out of the house and meet him for their third and final date. That meeting would leave Laura with emotional scars that would take years to heal.

"We went to the fair that night," she remembered. "All the fun rides, cotton candy, holding hands in the moonlight — how romantic. But as the lights were going out, we headed to the car which he parked far away from everything."

"He shoved me in the back seat of the car and started tearing at my clothes. He had a gun in the floorboard and let me know he would use it if I didn't cooperate. I fought for awhile but I knew I was making him mad enough to really hurt me. He raped me."

"I didn't know where to go, or who to turn to for advice," Laura said. "I couldn't tell my parents. I had lied to them. I had to hide the shame and guilt I felt at home, church, and school."

For Laura, the pain surfaced in many ways. She developed health problems, struggled with a weight problem, suffered from insomnia, and when she did sleep, would often have nightmares. She also drifted in and out of short-term relationships, including a three-and-a-half-year marriage that ended in divorce.

"Life really got to be a mess," she remembered. "My whole world was falling apart."

Unfortunately, Laura's story is not unusual.

"Some youth-serving professionals are now estimating that by the time girls move through junior high, high school, and college, one-fourth of them will have experienced date rape or a severe attempt at a physical attack by a trusted acquaintance on a date," said Richard Ross, youth ministry consultant for the Sunday School Board's Church Administration Department.

With this in mind, Ross decided to add a counseling tape on date rape to the 24-Hour Counselor audio cassette series. Produced by the board's Broadman Press, the 24-Hour Counselor series covers a variety of teen issues. The tapes are offered for sale in individual units called "capsules" or in volumes that contain several tapes. Churches can duplicate the tapes without charge as a counseling resource for youth. Ross said he encourages churches to display the tapes so that teen-agers can pick them up anonymously.

The tape on date rape was released in January, along with three other new 24-Hour Counselor tapes on adoption, shame-bound experiences and an audio-drama presentation of the plan of salvation called "Gospel Tract." The date rape capsule is presented as a counseling session featuring Wade and Jodi Rowatt. Both are on the faculty at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., he as professor of psychology of religion and she as instructor in pastoral care. Together, they offer encouragement, practical

advice, help in dealing with painful emotions, and Christian love and support to a victim of date rape, portrayed on the tape by a teen-age girl.

"They carefully and gently guide the victim toward talking with someone who can provide further help," Ross said. "We see this tape as the beginning of help, not the end."

Laura, now 24, eventually sought help and received the counseling she needed. She also found strength in her faith in God.

She recently listened to the 24-Hour Counselor tape on date rape, and said she would "highly recommend" it to youth ministers and school guidance counselors.

"If I had access to this tape at age 17, I possibly could have made some clearer decisions on dealing with all the emotions my mind and heart couldn't understand. I wouldn't have lived like a victim for so long. I would have sought help sooner."

Alford writes for BSSB.

Special kids have "sweet mama"

By Shannon T. Simpson

Ruby Bryant's eyes sparkle when she talks of her kids — Russ, Betty Jean, Hilda, Steve, Elise, Donnie — in fact, all 70 of them. Ruby's "kids" are the 70 members on role in the Special Education Department at Calvary Church, Jackson. Some of those kids are over 40 years old.

Begun almost 30 years ago by Joe Tuten, Roy Trimm, and Dorothy Green Parker, the Special Education Sunday School program at Calvary has been called the granddaddy of such programs in the SBC.

Ruby joined its activities one summer when Roy Manning recruited her to accompany a camping trip in Pelahatchie for the handicapped. Soon after that first summer with the special kids, Ruby was hooked. She says it may have happened the year hurricane Camille went right over their camp, and they had to run up hills through mud and wind to reach shelter.

Each year, Ruby now plans her own version of the summer camp, held at Roosevelt State Park. For a week starting each Memorial Day, about 90 special kids "from all over" converge on the park to take walks, have beauty pageants, participate in "womanless weddings," and generally have fun.

"Nothing breaks my heart more than to see a big, 35 or 40-year-old man with a tiny little craft work in his hands. That's not what it's all about," she says of starting the camp. "I was determined to treat these campers like adults, to let them do what they are capable of doing. So, I just decided to start one for Calvary."

One of the most popular visitors to the camp is former Mrs. World Pamela Nail. Her pictures are hung proudly on the bulletin board of Calvary's Special Education Department.

Another prized possession is the

focal point of the department's main room — a case filled with butterflies and moths gathered at Wall Doxey State Park. The collection was presented to special campers in 1979 by Wall Doxey park rangers with teary eyes. The rangers had grown to love the special kids who came to the park and changed their lives with genuine affection and sweet spirits, Ruby says.

"That's how these kids are. I've seen them do it many times. They change you. They have no ulterior motives. If they say you are pretty, then they mean you are pretty. They are so honest."

One way Ruby has tried to make life better for the mentally handicapped is through her work with The Mustard Seed, a group home in Rankin County.

Begun about eight years ago, the home operates a workshop where participants can produce ceramic greenware for Charter Hospital, package welding rods, or package cookies for the Peber Nodder Company. On site are three houses — one for female residents, and one for male residents, and one for offices. A one-acre garden is planned for the summer, and other additions are in the works. The Mustard Seed also has a handbell choir, the Bells of Faith, which performs throughout the state. Bryant is adamant that the home does not receive federal funding; it operates completely from private donations.

"If we took money from the government, we would have to do what they say. But we want to be able to have devotionals and Bible studies."

She explains that, like everyone in God's kingdom, the mentally handicapped ("I hate the word retarded!") have a purpose. "They are here for a reason. They humble you."

"These kids may not know who the Pharisees and Sadducees were, but they know God," she says, almost



Ruby Bryant points out photos of some of Calvary's special kids.

reverently. "It would blow your heart to hear them pray."

Now in her 70s, Ruby Bryant shows no sign of slowing the pace of her work in the near future. Her whole family has been involved in the ministry. Grown daughters Becky, Jo, Suzie, and Tommi have helped at the summer camps and Sunday School for years. Even Mr. Tom Bryant has been seen lending a hand at The Mustard Seed.

For the lady known as "Sweet Mama" to innumerable children and adults over the years, there is one main reason for her ministry: "God is so good to me. These kids make me thankful for all my blessings."

Ads deliver message that Calvary cares

By Tim Nicholas

She: We met at Calvary as children. He: She had a crush on me in the fifth grade.

She: I did not.

He: Anyway, a lot's changed over the years.

She: We've been to college and law school, married and had a child.

He: But Calvary's always been there, a solid, certain point in our lives.

She: Just like the Savior that Calvary stands for.

He: And Calvary will be there for our children.

She: Because at Calvary it's people that matter.

He: And because over the years Calvary will always care.

Announcer: Calvary Baptist Church, 1300 West Capitol Street, one mile west of downtown Jackson, pastor James W. Street, People Matter — Calvary Cares.

The preceding is a radio spot produced by Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson in advance of its 90th anniversary and to provide a witness to persons in Jackson who could find there a spiritual home.

The church's public relations committee, headed by Dot Brieger, developed a strategy for reaching out into the community. The committee chose what it believed was the strength of the church for the theme: "People Matter — Calvary Cares."

The committee spoke with the deacon council and all Sunday School departments, taking in ideas for goals.

"Since we have a predominantly older congregation, we wanted to reach young adults with Baptist ties who are currently not attending church or are unsaved," said Brieger. "We wanted to tell them what a great

experience attending Calvary is and how we all care and love each other."

The group used young adults in the church as centerpieces of its advertising strategy, including in all the location of the church.

All the advertising was to be in addition to the worship services broadcast over WTWZ radio and ACTS television.

The church purchased newspaper advertising in the Clarion Ledger's Friday entertainment section "because young families are likely to read the movie ads and see our ad," said Brieger. And they used neighborhood papers where members are located.

Most of the ads used quotations from young adult members saying what Calvary means to them, including comments from workers in the special education department.

Then the committee took proposals from several Jackson radio stations then asked the young adult Sunday School departments to vote on which radio station they would most likely hear an ad for Calvary. "We went with the two stations that got the most votes," said Brieger.

The March ads before Easter emphasized the pastor James Street, introducing him to the radio audience. And the April and May ads feature church members, each having written their own spots, emphasizing "that Calvary is a family and we care about each other," said Brieger.

What are the hoped for results? Says Brieger, "When we celebrate our 90th anniversary June 2-9, we hope everyone in Jackson will know where Calvary Baptist Church is located, what we stand for, and that 'People Matter — Calvary Cares.'"



Workers at the Mustard Seed's workshop produce greenware for Charter Hospital.

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

Baptist Record

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May 2, 1991